



FRIDAY NIGHT FACTS

Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives

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Welcome to Friday Night Facts! Once again you will read about many opportunities available to you throughout Indiana. Each listed opportunity is one that will help your community be a better place to live. This week we learned from some of our readers just how helpful our Friday Night Facts newsletter has been. An article on page 3 details how six organizations from Indiana took advantage of a grant opportunity we announced late last year. Out of those six organizations who applied for the grant, three of them received the funding they requested...\$50,000. We are thrilled that we were able to help in just a small way.

Additionally, one Friday Night Facts Reader wrote to us last week and said: *"We are very excited about your latest newsletter/email. Our community has opened their arms to us. We offered to bring a group of volunteers to the elementary schools to help children who are struggling or falling behind in school work. With the coming of ISTEP testing to the lower grades, there has been an increase in stress on families and school faculty to be sure the students are mastering basic skills. Over 40 persons from our congregation have signed up for the Homework Tutoring Program."*

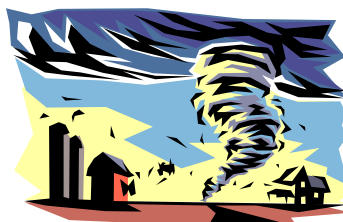
We know that this kind of activity is happening all across Indiana, if you have story about helping your community because of an idea you learned about through Friday Night Facts, let us know. Have a great week, do something good for someone!

AN INVITATION TO ATTEND A **FREE** TRAINING EVENT

The Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives, in collaboration with the Corporation for National and Community Service and the Points of Light Foundation, will be hosting a training on **"Managing Spontaneous Volunteers in Times of Disaster"** on **September 8, 2006**, at the American Red Cross (441 East 10th Street, Indianapolis, IN) from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. The purpose of the training is, as the title implies, to prepare National Service participants to staff volunteer reception centers that process, screen and manage spontaneous volunteers in times of disaster. Because of the Corporation's sponsorship, we are offering this training free to all participants!

The training includes the following units: Disaster Management Basics, Risk Management, Agency Training and Coordination, Public Messaging, Volunteer Reception Center Training and Donations Management. A cadre of Master Trainers with extensive experience in disaster volunteer management is delivering this time-tested curriculum all over the country. The curriculum is based on Florida's extensive experience in disaster response. We are very fortunate to have them in Indiana.

Seating for this workshop is limited, so register early. To register for this event, send an email to: RSVP2@ofbci.in.gov by Friday, September 1, 2006.



Hurry...Limited Seating is Available...

The Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives is hosting **A Challenge To Excellence**, a free, one day workshop to assist Indiana grassroots faith-based and community organizations in meeting the high performance expectations that accompany government and foundation grants. The goal of this conference is to equip smaller faith-based and community-based organizations with the tools to successfully operate efficient and effective programs. Attendees will receive instruction in the legal, financial, managerial and reporting requirements that are mandatory for any successful grant-funded program.

The 2006 Challenge to Excellence conference will be held on Wednesday, September 27, 2006, 8:30 am – 4:00 p.m. at Indiana Government Center Conference Center in Indianapolis, and will feature speakers from state government, universities, and other organizations ready to provide accurate, relevant information to faith and community organizations with programs in Indiana.

Attendance is limited to 300 participants. **To reserve your seat at this exciting conference, simply visit <http://www.in.gov/ofbci/events/index.html>**

2006 Fiesta Indianapolis



La Plaza is pleased to announce their 26th Annual Fiesta Indianapolis, the premier Hispanic cultural celebration in Indiana since 1980, will be held in downtown Indianapolis at the American Legion Mall on **Saturday, September 16, 2006** from noon to midnight. For more information, please visit www.laplaza-indy.org



Join the Voices for Recovery Building a Stronger, Healthier Community

The Addiction Recovery Month Kick-Off event, sponsored by SAMHSA, will be held on **September 8th** from 8:30 AM to 4 PM at the Indiana Government Center South Main Auditorium. For more information about this event contact Randy Miller at Drug Free Marion County, 317-254-2815, or visit their website at www.drugfreemarioncounty.org

The 2006 Community Plunge will continue to focus on the importance of Building Healthy Families. This year will concentrate on the significance of healthy relationships, due to its direct impact on emotional, mental and physical health. Relationship topics include Parenting, Intimate Partner Abuse, Child Abuse and Internet Predators. The Community Plunge will be held at the Indianapolis Marriott Downtown and is **FREE** and open to those who want to strengthen their knowledge, find community support and discover solutions for healthier relationships. For more information, please visit www.clarian.org/communityplunge or call (800) 265-3220.



October 27, 2006



Hope II Grant Money Coming to Indiana!

Three Indiana faith-based organizations, out of the six who applied, have been selected to each receive a \$50,000 HOPE II grant to serve victims of violent crime in Indiana. The organizations were chosen based on applications submitted to a national competition earlier this year. Nationally, there were 181 grant applications submitted, with 28, or about 15% receiving awards. To have half the Indiana applicants receive grants is very encouraging. This shows that Indiana organizations can be competitive for national grants.

Recent events have raised awareness of the toll that crime is taking on our state, and these grants will increase the resources available to families which have been touched by violence. I'm happy that our office was able to help bring in \$150,000 in federal funding to address this issue.

The HOPE (Helping Outreach Programs to Expand) II grants are a creative way of helping smaller organizations receive federal assistance. The grants are funded by the Office of Victims of Crime at the United States Department of Justice, but are being administered by the Maryland Crime Victims Restoration Center, a non-profit organization. This simplified the application process and made applying for HOPE II much easier than a traditional federal grant. The Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives circulated information about the grants and provided research and technical assistance to Indiana applicants.

Congratulations to our Indiana Grantees:

The Church Federation of Greater Indianapolis will expand their "Ecumenical Project for Reconciliation and Healing" which provides services to families of victims of violent death.

Crime Victims Shalom Restoration Services, Fort Wayne, will recruit and train volunteers to serve crime victims among Fort Wayne's growing population of Somali and Sudanese refugees.

Motivational Messages, Indianapolis, will hire a volunteer coordinator to work with Indianapolis area churches and raise awareness of domestic violence resources.





WANTED:

TRAINING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE VISTAS

Through a collaboration with the Indiana Department of Education and the Corporation for National and Community Service, the Office of Faith Based and Community Initiatives is seeking eight (8) VISTA associates to provide one year of support to strengthen Indiana's faith-based and community organizations as they work to address needs and solve problems, beginning September 1, 2006.

Two (2) VISTA training associates will assist in developing and implementing a training and technical assistance curriculum for faith-based and grassroots community-based organizations and provide technical assistance support as needed. Two (2) VISTA associates will develop two new volunteer centers in communities outside of Marion County. Four (4) VISTA associates will provide one-on-one technical assistance to faith-based organizations in leadership development, organizational development, program development or fund development.

For more information on becoming a VISTA associate and about this opportunity, visit the Corporation for National and Community Service website, <https://recruit.cns.gov/index.asp>. For more information about the Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives, visit our website, www.ofbci.in.gov.

SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE

Many Indiana AmeriCorps programs are currently seeking applications from individuals interested in serving their communities to meet a variety of critical needs. Please visit <https://recruit.cns.gov/> to search the range of available opportunities throughout Indiana.



Safe Sleep: Getting Out the RIGHT MESSAGE

Indiana continues to rank number one in the nation for unintentional deaths of infants under age one.

— CDC National Center for Health Statistics, 2003

This one day conference explores the subject of safe sleep by sifting through the data, recommendations and anecdotal comments from consumers to provide the best practices and bottom-line information that you need to know to: interpret national, state and local data on leading causes of infant death and the contributing factors; understand current American Academy of Pediatrics risk-reduction recommendations and guidelines; gain insights on what parents want and need to know about safe-sleep recommendations and guidelines; and understand Centers for Disease Control and Prevention death scene investigation protocols. This conference will be held on October 4, 2006 from 8 AM to 4:15 PM. For more information, please contact Indiana Perinatal Network, 317-924-0825, or go to www.indianaperinatal.org